

Remarks

In the Office Action mailed August 23, 2006, the Examiner withdrawn the previous rejection of the claims and made two new rejections, as follows: (1) Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11 and 13 have now been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Banerjee (U.S. 6,307,630) in view of Goto et al. (JP 020889944); (2) Claims 6, 12 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banerjee in view of Goto et al. and Sadar (U.S. 5,747,667).

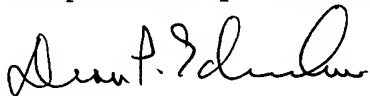
Submitted herewith is a Declaration of Michael J. Sadar (applicant) which discusses the significant technical differences between the present invention and the cited references. As explained by the applicant, the present invention provides a monitoring system for monitoring a parameter (e.g. turbidity or particle count) of a fluid stream. The monitoring system includes means for measuring the relative standard deviation of this parameter. This enables the user to access the condition of a filtration process, for example. Specifically, the monitoring system of the invention can increase the sensitivity of a change in the condition of a filter that would not be observed in a simple measured turbidity value. Thus, using the system of the present invention, there is a lower detection level of a breach in a filtration process.

Combination of the teachings of the cited references would not lead to the present invention. Thus, the Section 103 (a) rejections are unsound and should be withdrawn.

The new rejections made by the examiner in the latest Office Action have necessitated the submission of the attached Declaration.

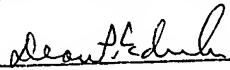
Reconsideration and favorable action are courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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SIGNED 

DATE Oct. 13, 2006